

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 - 6. (canceled)

1       7. (new) A veneer-slicing machine comprising:

2           a frame;

3           a log beam extending along and rotatable on the frame  
4       about an axis and having a generally planar and longitudinally  
5       extending support face having a pair of longitudinal edges;

6           means for securing an elongated flitch to the support  
7       face with longitudinal edge portions of the flitch projecting  
8       transversely past the longitudinal edges of the support face;

9           a blade on the frame having a cutting edge extending  
10      substantially parallel to the axis and displaceable on the frame  
11      transversely of the axis, whereby, when the log beam is rotated to  
12      orbit the flitch about the axis and the blade is displaced into the  
13      orbit of the flitch, the blade slices veneer from the flitch; and

14           respective support members each displaceable on the log  
15      bar between a work position bearing generally at the plane on a  
16      respective one of the edge regions of the flitch and a rest  
17      position retracted back from the plane;

18           means for displacing the support members into the work  
19      positions during rotation of the log beam and slicing of veneer  
20      from the flitch for supporting the edge regions of the flitch and  
21      preventing deformation of the flitch.

1           8. (new) The veneer-slicing machine defined in claim 7  
2 wherein the members are plates having straight longitudinal edges  
3 engageable with the flitch at the plane.

1           9. (new) The veneer-slicing machine defined in claim 8  
2 wherein the plates are pivotal between the work and rest positions.

1           10. (new) The veneer-slicing machine defined in claim 9  
2 wherein the means for displacing include actuators braced against  
3 the frame.

1           11. (new) The veneer-slicing machine defined in claim  
2 10 wherein the actuators are hydraulic cylinders.

1           12. (new) The veneer-slicing machine defined in claim 9  
2 wherein the plates are pivotal about axes parallel to the log-bar  
3 axis.